

Evolution of Art

By Daniel Kenneth Villanueva

The narrator chose to end the essay with the line "Art is anything you want it to be" because the experiences of humanity and their form of expression of it is no longer synchronous. Unlike in the prehistoric times where humanity's only obsession is to survive, we all now have different goals in life.

Art started simply as a method to communicate information on where the beasts are. After religion was invented, art was used to facilitate the religion. Namely, art was used to foster the traditions of the religion.

There was a time in Ancient Greece where art was not simply used for the enhancement of religion. After that, Christianity reigned throughout Europe and as such, art became used for religion again. As different movements rise that both increase the quality of art and the amount of effort it takes to create them, it is only a matter of time before less time-intensive forms that preserve the emotional impact of art without the extra effort would be discovered. Simultaneous to what is occurring above, Africans are also creating their own type of art, something that would be integrated to European art by Picasso.

The less time-intensive form of art started with the Impressionist movement. The impressionist movement started out as something that is condemned by the art establishment of the time. However, this schism in art paved way for other forms of art to be discovered in Europe such as Fauvism, Expressionism, Impressionism, Cubism, Dada, and various others.

In a way, we could say that the disestablishment of the authority on what is beautiful in art is the one that paved way for differing types of art. This sentiment also parallels how the advancement of humanity allowed different things to be considered beautiful because beyond the bottom two needs on Maslow's hierarchy of needs, we have a vastly diverse ways in which we would want to fill the other three categories of needs. The diversity in art also displays how humanity can specialize. We should also not forget how the printing press and the internet is able to expose people into a wider array of ideas.